In the Claims

Claims 1-11 (canceled)

12. (Currently amended) An inhalable composition comprising from about 1 to about 250 mg of aztreonam lysinate salt per one dose, said composition suitable for treatment of pulmonary bacterial infections caused by gram-negative bacteria wherein said aztreonam lysinate is prepared as an inhalable dry powder ~~prepared by milling, lyophilizing, spray drying or particle precipitation to a powder~~ having a particle size with a mass medium average diameter from about 1 to about 5 μ.

13. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 25 [[~~12~~]] wherein said aztreonam lysinate salt ~~dry powder~~ is dissolved into a solution in from about 1 to about 5 ml of saline comprising between about 0.09% and about 0.9% of chloride or an equivalent amount of bromine or iodine, wherein [[~~a~~]] said solution ~~of the aztreonam lysinate dry powder in saline~~ is aerosolable and wherein ~~the~~ said aerosolable solution has a pH from about 4.2 to about 7.5.

14. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 13 wherein said ~~aztreonam lysinate is dissolved in a~~ saline ~~diluted to~~ comprises from about 0.1 to about 0.45% of sodium chloride, and wherein said ~~aerosolable solution has a~~ pH is from about 5.5 to about 7.

15. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 14 ~~additionally comprising a~~ wherein said saline and said aztreonam lysinate salt are formulated separately ~~formulated diluent~~ for

reconstitution of the aztreonam lysinate dry powder for aerosol wherein the dose of aztreonam lysinate is about 75 mg/ml of [[the]] a saline diluent.

Claims 16-20 (Canceled)

21. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 13 administered as the inhalable dry powder delivered by a dry powder inhaler, by a metered dose inhaler or as the aerosolable solution.

22. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 21 administered in a dose from about 10 to about 200 mg of the aztreonam lysinate salt twice a day.

23. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 22 administered in a dose from about 50 to about 100 mg of the aztreonam lysinate salt twice or three times a day.

24. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 21 administered one to twelve times a day, provided that if the composition is delivered more then twice a day, a total dose of aztreonam lysinate salt is not higher than 750 mg a day.

25. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 21 wherein the aztreonam lysinate salt is alpha aztreonam lysinate prepared from an alpha [[form of]] aztreonam form.

26. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 25 wherein said alpha aztreonam lysinate has impurity lower than 1% and stability for at least two years.

27. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 26 wherein said alpha aztreonam lysinate salt contains less than 100 ppm of residual alcohol ~~is substantially free of an ethyl ester contaminant~~ and ethyl alcohol residue contaminants present in said alpha aztreonam lysinate salt are between 0.1 and 1% .

28. (Canceled) The composition of claim 26 wherein quantity of a beta lactam ring contaminant formed in said aztreonam lysinate during a chain opening side reaction is reduced.

29. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 12 wherein the aztreonam lysinate salt is alpha ~~form of~~ aztreonam lysinate.

30. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 12 wherein the gram-negative bacteria is *Burkholderia cepacia*.

31. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 12 wherein the gram-negative bacteria is Stenotrophomonas maltophilia.

32. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 12 wherein the gram-negative bacteria is *Alcaligenes xylosoxidans*.

33. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 12 wherein the gram-negative bacteria is a multidrug resistant *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*.